

COONAMESSETT POND Falmouth Barnstable County Cape Cod Watershed Latitude: 41.6183837 N Longitude: 70.5677014 W



158 Acres

Depth: 19 feet Average 34 feet Maximum

Primary Gamefish:

Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass

General Information:

Coonamessett Pond is a 158 acre natural kettlehole pond with a maximum depth of 34 feet and an average depth of 19 feet. The pond is located in the Hatchville section of Falmouth. Transparency is only fair, extending to 6.5 feet. The pond stratifies during the summer but no trout water exists. The shoreline is 2.9 miles and is moderately developed with a golf course, cottages and year-round homes. The pond receives water from groundwater and a small inlet from Round Pond and drains into the Coonamessett River.

Access:

Public access to Coonamessett Pond is provided by a town of Falmouth through the Souza Conservation Area on the southwestern end of the pond. It is located off Hatchville Road which runs between Sam Turner Road and Sandwich Road, both roads run south from Route 151. The access road is dirt and narrow and rutted, the unimproved ramp is suitable only for cartop boats and canoes. Parking is available for approximately five cars. *There is a 10 horsepower limit on outboards imposed by the town of Falmouth*.

Management History:

Coonamessett Pond was first surveyed on August 9, 1912 and fishing was reported as poor. The pond was stocked in the 1930s and 1940s with Chinook salmon, smallmouth bass, brown bullhead and yellow perch. A July, 1948 survey found white perch, yellow perch, smallmouth bass, brown bullhead and alewife.

Fish Populations:

The last DFW survey of the pond, conducted in 1979, recorded 12 species present: smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, chain pickerel, alewife, yellow perch, bluegill, white perch, killifish, brown bullhead, pumpkinseed, golden shiner and white sucker. White catfish and tessellated darters have also been reported. The pond was a study area for a Masters thesis study of largemouth bass and alewifes in the 1990s. The sea-run alewives enter the pond via the Coonamessett River/Dutchman's Ditch.

Fishing:

Smallmouth and largemouth bass do well here. Growth rates are above the state average for these species. Unfortunately, the sampling indicated a general scarcity of bass 12 inches and larger, indicating heavy fishing pressure for these species. Chain pickerel provide good fishing with some sizable fish 20 inches and better. The sea-run alewives provide a good forage base.

Panfishing should be good here. Although the brown bullheads appeared quite scarce, there were plenty of fat bluegills and a large, underharvested, yellow perch population. The perch appeared to be of small average size, but there were ample numbers in the 7 to 8 inch range during the last survey, and the situation may have improved somewhat during the intervening years. Other nearby ponds are Ashumet Pond, Coonamessett River Reservoir, Deep Pond, Grews Pond, Mares Pond, Johns Pond and Mashpee-Wakeby Ponds.

Updated: February 9, 2007 S.T.H.